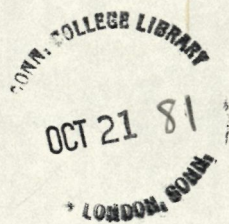


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Citizens' Bulletin

Volume 9 Number 1 September 1981 \$3/yr.

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection



Conn. Documents

Legends don't
quite give
Devil's Hopyard
its due



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Cover Photo: Jenny Mead - covered bridge at Devils Hopyard

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Trout Brook flood project begun

Ground breaking on the Trout Brook section of the South Branch-Park River flood protection project took place at a ceremony on July 14 at Nortfeldt Little League Field in West Hartford. Turning over the first shovelfuls were Benjamin Warner, Director of DEP's Water Resources Unit; Anne Streeter, mayor of West Hartford; John Anderson, DEP deputy commissioner; Lowell Wheeler of Hull-Hazard, Inc., contractors, of Syracuse, N.Y.; Philip Christenson, State Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture-Soil Conservation Service; and State Representative Joan Kemmler (18th District).

The project will modify 1.9 miles along Trout Brook in West Hartford, a stretch that has suffered repeated flood damage to 258 homes, a nursing home, and some buildings on the University of Connecticut's Hartford campus. Average annual flood damage in the area has been estimated at \$233,000.

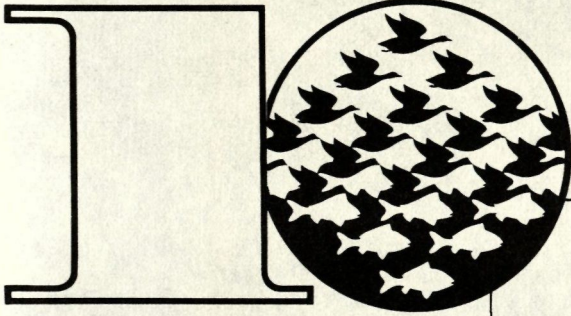
The project, part of the South Branch-Park River watershed protection project begun in 1961, will enlarge Trout Brook's channel to accommodate flood flows equal to those caused by the 1955 hurricane. In addition,

five bridges will be replaced with larger structures with greater hydraulic capacities. Total construction costs, financed by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, the State of Connecticut, and the town of West Hartford, will run about \$10.5 million.

Trout Brook, in West Hartford, and Piper Brook, in Newington, converge to become the South Branch-Park River. To date, four flood retarding structures, 4.1 miles of channel improvements, and a pumping station have been constructed in the South Branch-Park River program, and a natural flood storage area has been purchased, at a total cost of \$17.68 million. Another 1.8 miles of stream protection in the town of Newington and a bridge replacement in Hartford remain to be accomplished for optimum flood control in the watershed. ■

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"A day for years to come"



National Hunting & Fishing Day[®] Sept. 26, 1981

September 26, 1981, will mark the tenth anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day. The theme of this tenth celebration is "A Day for Years to Come."

During the past decade, thousands of sportsmen have organized National Hunting and Fishing Day activities to tell non-sportsmen about the need for conservation and the role hunters and fishermen play in America's conservation efforts.

By making non-sportsmen aware of the contributions to conservation made by people who participate in hunting and fishing NHF Day organizers help to insure that they and future generations can enjoy these sports in years to come.

Since National Hunting and Fishing Day was established by Congress in 1972, it has earned the support of each President.

Over the past decade millions of sportsmen and non-sportsmen across the country have participated each year in NHF Day activities at sportsmen's clubs, schools, shopping centers, and wildlife management areas.

Information about National Hunting and Fishing Day observances is available from NHF Day, 1075 Post Road, Riverside, CT 06878, or from DEP's Wildlife Unit, 566-4683. Or watch local papers for announcements of NHF Day programs in your area.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY, 1981

Our nation's wilderness and wildlife are among our most precious resources and are enjoyed by millions of Americans each year.

Less than one hundred years ago, however, many species of American wildlife faced a bleak and uncertain future. To ensure that future generations could enjoy America's wildlife, hunters and fishermen helped found the conservation movement.

Since then, America's wildlife has staged a dramatic comeback. Elk, deer, antelope, and wild turkey, which had been reduced to small and scattered populations, have been restored to healthy and abundant numbers.

This has been due to wildlife management and habitat restoration programs financed largely by sportsmen's contributions. These programs benefit hundreds of non-game as well as game species. Through special fees and private contributions, hunters and fishermen have provided more than \$5 billion for conservation.

In recognition of the historic and continuing contributions made to conservation by America's sportsmen, it is fitting to recognize September 26, 1981, as National Hunting and Fishing Day.

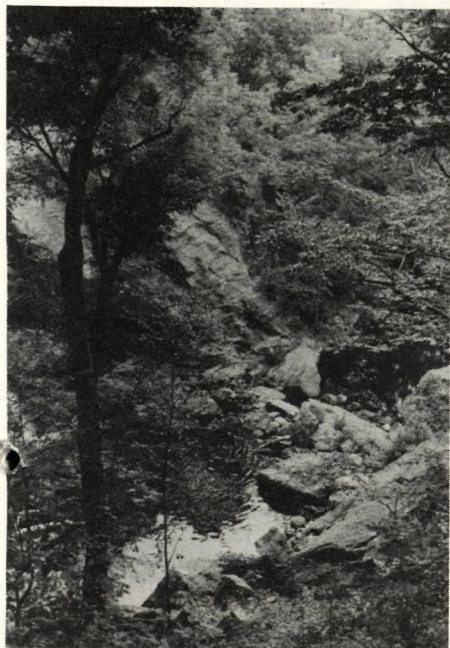
On this tenth anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day, I want to take the opportunity to commend hunters and fishermen for their efforts on behalf of conservation and urge all Americans to join with them to ensure the wise use of our natural and wildlife resources.

Ronald Reagan



‘Early local residents suspected there was more going on than birdwatching’

By Maria Walker, DEP Information & Education Unit



The Devil's Hopyard. The name might suggest a party of drunken demons hoofing it up to some New England fiddling, leaping from rock to rock in a frenzy of music appreciation. Or maybe the image is of a sort of diabolical penitentiary yard where undevilish devils are sent to do a little time; a Boss Devil in mirrored shades cracks the whip and snarls, "Hop, devils, 'till I say youse can stop!"

The real stories behind the name are the stuff of local legend, stories long on Yankee flavor if rather short on historical fact. But history is not what brings thousands of picnicking visitors to the Devil's Hopyard in East Haddam each year, not to mention countless trout fishermen, hikers, campers, birdwatchers, wild flower seekers, and the ubiquitous rock sitters. The truth is that the Devil's Hopyard is one of the foremost treasures of Connecticut's State Park system, and by the looks of the crowd on a warm, sunny Saturday, it is a treasure very much appreciated.

Stream-side picnic areas with tables and fireplaces attract the visitor out for a day of food and frisbee. Chapman Falls provides a dramatic backdrop for picnicking: here the Eight Mile River plunges over 60 feet of steps and ledges, swirling through its

famed potholes along the way and creating a scene not often found in Connecticut.

The potholes are a result of the scouring action of water and rock over time. The relatively soft Scotland schist underlying the falls is gradually carved and curved by pieces of harder rock trapped in spinning eddies of waters. Over hundreds of years, the potholes, or kettles, grow larger and larger until some, in the words of one unabashed writer, are "large enough to hide the dressed carcass of a hog." High waters of the early spring freshet obscure the potholes temporarily, but they should be clearly visible throughout most of the year.

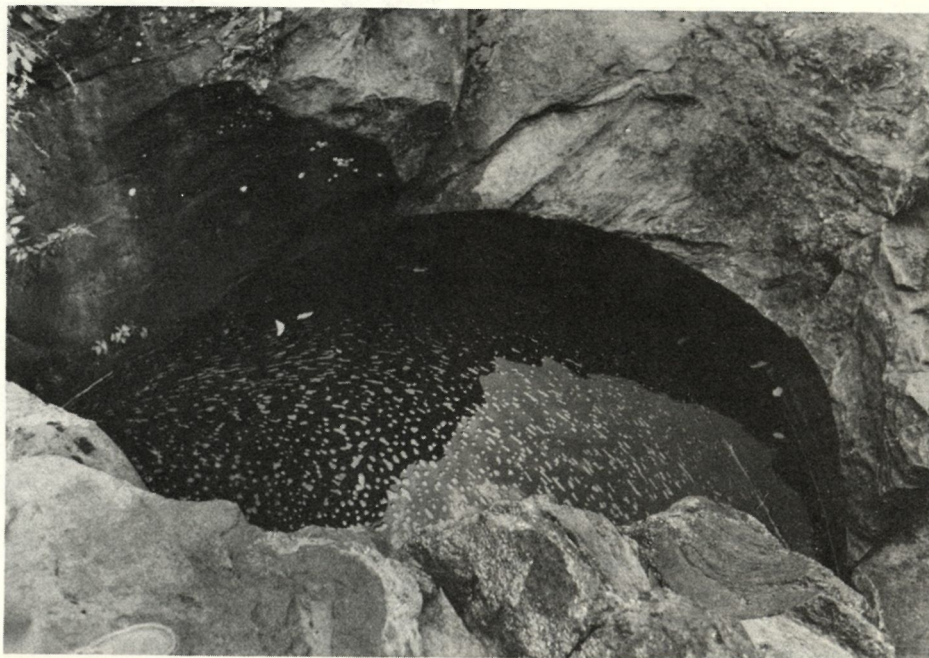
Below the falls, a red covered bridge spans the river and serves as an entryway to a web of trails leading up, into, and around one of the most beautiful hemlock gorges in Connecticut. The still, rocky gorge has a mysterious magnetism. The tall hemlocks line the sides of this extremely steep ravine, casting cool pockets of shadow. There is little sound but the rustling of the trees and the low humming of the Eight Mile River below. Large rocks seem to have been purposely tossed, scrambled, and sculpted into wild formations. The invitation is to climb and to explore, to look for whatever

may be hidden by a jumble of rocks or by the deceiving interplay of light and shadow.

And looking is soon rewarded: the exotic leaves of rattlesnake plantain, a small white orchid which blooms in summer, mingle with large colonies of wood and rue anemone. Patches of the forest floor are covered with May-blooming, false lily-of-the-valley or Canada mayflower. Solomon's seal, violets, and various species of ferns also grow in the gorge. Though hemlock gorges seldom support a neck-stretching variety of bird life, common woodland species of birds can be heard and spotted here in every season.

Exploring can also turn up discoveries of a non-biological kind. The large rocks punctuating the slopes of the gorge create, when piled up, nooks and crannies of varying size and depth. One such formation is the Devil's Oven, a small roundish talus cave (a cave formed by fallen, overlapping rock) that earlier Hopyard enthusiasts thought to be the spot where the Devil did his baking. More sensible heads may, of course, believe that he actually used it to get out of the rain.

The energetic hiker should not turn back at the Oven -- a sweeping view of the river valley lies at the trail's

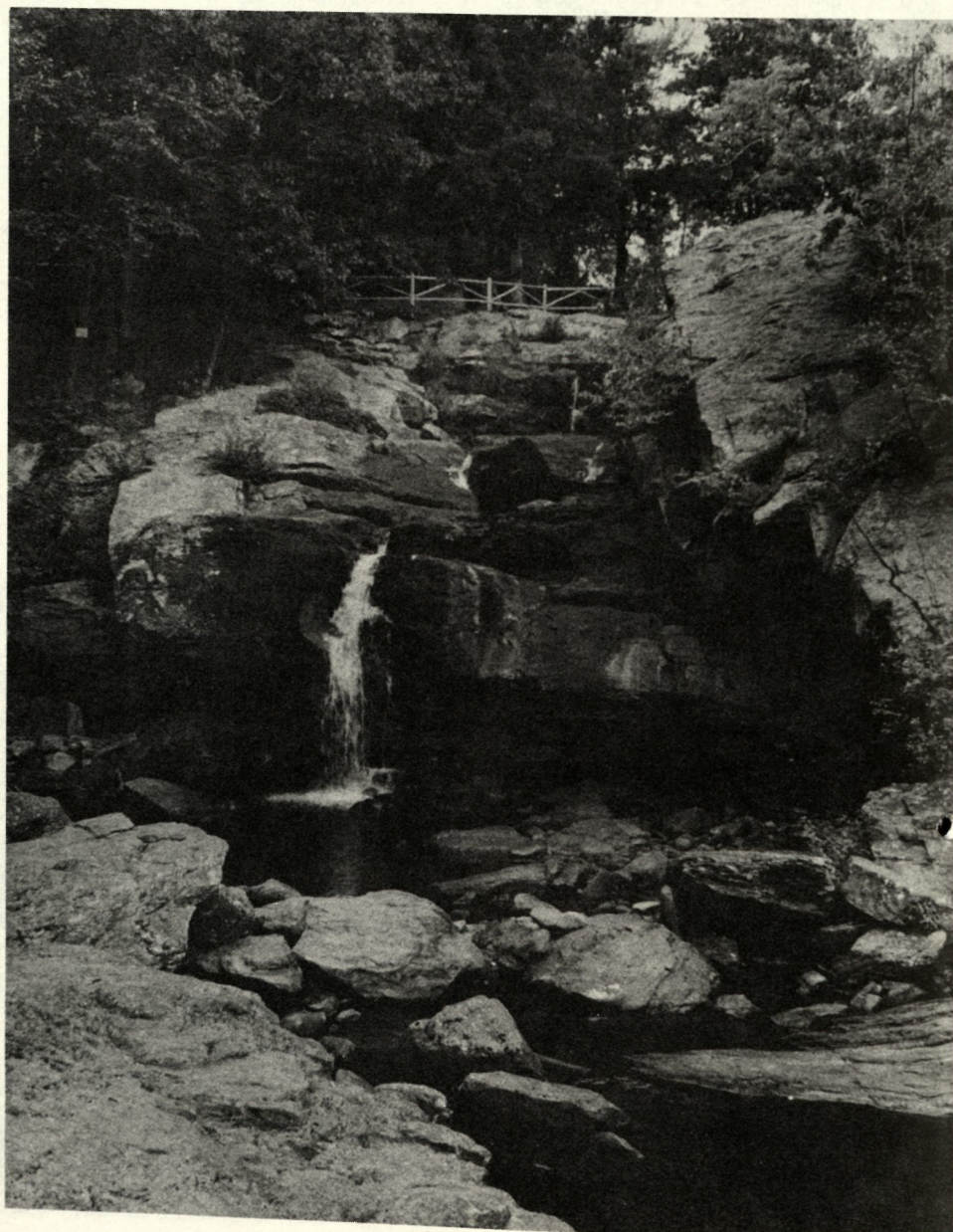


summit. After sharing the view with the turkey vultures that frequent this ridge, the hiker can continue on the looping trail ending back at the bridge.

Across the trout-stocked Eight Mile River to the west lies an entirely different facet of the Devil's Hopyard. Mixed deciduous stands, a meandering brook, and scattered marshy areas create a more diversified habitat than exists in the shadowy gorge. Hardwoods from birch to oak, from maple to witch hazel shade an understory of shrubs and abundant wildflowers. A spring sampling includes trout lily, pussy toes, bluets, saxifrage (on the rocks), wood and rue anemone, and the leaves of summer-blooming pipsisewa. Many of the trees and plants along a new nature trail are labeled, providing an easy lesson in tree identification. Access to this area is via the serpentine Three-Bridges Loop Road. One of the bridges crosses Muddy Brook at Baby Falls, an appealing, small-scale woodland cascade.

Wildlife includes all you'd expect to find in such an area, and a little more. Besides the neighborhood regulars -- deer, raccoons, opossums, skunks -- an occasional river otter is spotted in the Hopyard. Beavers were active in the park up until a year and a half ago. Though yet to be spotted within the park's boundaries, coyotes and bobcats have been reported in the vicinity. More common predators include mink and gray and red foxes. According to DEP Wildlife Biologist Joe Risigo, the wild turkey can be found here as well as a healthy population of ruffed grouse.

The brass ring for bird watchers is a sighting of the very rare Acadian flycatcher. Devil's Hopyard is one of the very few, if not the only, known nesting sites in Connecticut of this southern flycatcher. Another uncommon bird that finds parts of the park to its liking is the red-shouldered hawk. A jay-like scream heard while hiking a park trail just may belong to an unseen, soaring "red-shoulder."



The most sought after denizen of the park, however, is neither bird nor mammal but the plentiful and elusive trout. Prior to opening day, trout are abundant and frustratingly visible. Many of the fish are caught on opening day, and the ones left seem much less brazen, but excellent habitat in the cool, clear Eight Mile River and in-season stocking combine to yield good fishing throughout the season.

Fishermen wanting to get an early start in the morning may opt to spend the night in the Devil's Hopyard, if the name doesn't deter them. Twenty camping sites are available in a wooded setting above Chapman Falls. The springtime camper will find himself surrounded by a nocturnal chorus of exultant spring peepers.

So what do peepers, picnics, frisbees and flycatchers have to do with the Devil, anyway? Not much, but it seems that early local residents suspected there was more going on in the Hopyard than bird-watching.

While superstitious early settlers may have been in the habit of deeding wild, desolate spots to the devil, and calling them Devil's Hopyards, this Devil's Hopyard has a mythology of its own. The soberest story on record traces the name to the growing of hops in the vicinity, with each parcel of land thus used called a "hop lot" or "hop yard." The story has it that a man named Dibble once lived in the vicinity and raised hops in the small clearing below Chapman Falls. The land was called Dibble's Hop Yard, and, through time, "Dibble" was corrupted into "Devil." However, there are no records of a Dibble ever owning land in East Haddam, though it is possible that Dibble may have been a hop-raising tenant farmer.

Another early explanation of what put the Devil in the Hopyard also answers any lingering questions as to the origin of the potholes. This one had Satan strolling along the Eight Mile River one evening and inadvertently getting his tail



wet. His dignity thus affronted, he leapt away in a fury and everywhere a cloven hoof struck, a smoking pothole remained.

Another tradition involves a mischievous minister's son who supposedly lived in the area until his practical joking led to his being run out of town. With revenge in mind, the out-cast returned in secret and "proceeded to even it up with the community by terrorizing people in the night season." He donned a "grotesque costume" and a mask with "formidable horns" and rode his horse at a fast clip along the country roads, making "hideous noises" as he passed by houses and people. Moreover, his presumed destination was the Hopyard as he was always headed in that direction. To impressionable folk, he was none other than the Devil on horseback, and so the Hopyard was besmirched by association, becoming the Devil's Hopyard.

Finally, there is the romantic, practically epic tale created by Judge Hiram Willey in 1909 and printed by the "Connecticut Valley Advertiser" in four installments, wonderfully titled "Weird and Romantic Devil's Hopyard, a Story Of Religious Bigotry, A Century and a Quarter Ago, When Witches Hovered Near." Whether Judge Willey actually had a peculiar

knowledge of the history of the Hopyard or invented one himself is not known, but his story has come to be ranked with the other traditional explanations of the park's name.

This legend also involves a mischievous son of a minister, but a much more worldly one. After committing some sins around the neighborhood, he was sent to jail and promptly dis-owned by his father. He then emigrated to Cuba, but not before thundering down the road wrapped in a borrowed bull's hide with the horns still attached. There were, as planned, witnesses to the twilight ride, and so another "Devil on horseback" legend was born. The story continues and eventually comes to the inevitable part involving a beautiful girl, but that has nothing to do with how the Devil's Hopyard got its name.

As Francis Parker, native of East Haddam and a 1920's chronicler of Devil's Hopyard lore, said, neither of these two stories about horned delinquents "has about it the earmarks of history."

Whether disappointed or heartened by the Hopyard's dearth of documented devils, no one should miss this most unusual State Park. But you may want to pack a sprig of garlic -- just in case. ■

Dam safety... a many-sided problem

By Audrey Handelman, Environmental Intern



A view across Lake Williams.

Federal inspection program

The problems surrounding the issue of dam safety are problems common to many issues which involve interaction among many groups and many different levels of government. Although the road to improving dam safety in the United States has been paved with good intentions, too often lack of money and political impasses have slowed progress to a standstill.

Dam safety gained national attention between 1972 and 1977, when failures around the country claimed 500 lives, injured many people and caused an estimated \$2 billion in damages. Among these failures were the collapses of the Buffalo Creek coal wastebank in West Virginia, the Kelley Barnes Dam in Toccoa, Georgia, and the Teton Dam in Idaho.

The high costs and devastating aftereffects of these

failures prompted President Nixon to sign the National Dam Inspection Act of 1972. This bill called for the Army Corps of Engineers to inspect every dam in the nation over 25 feet in height, or with a capacity to impound more than 50 acre-feet of water.

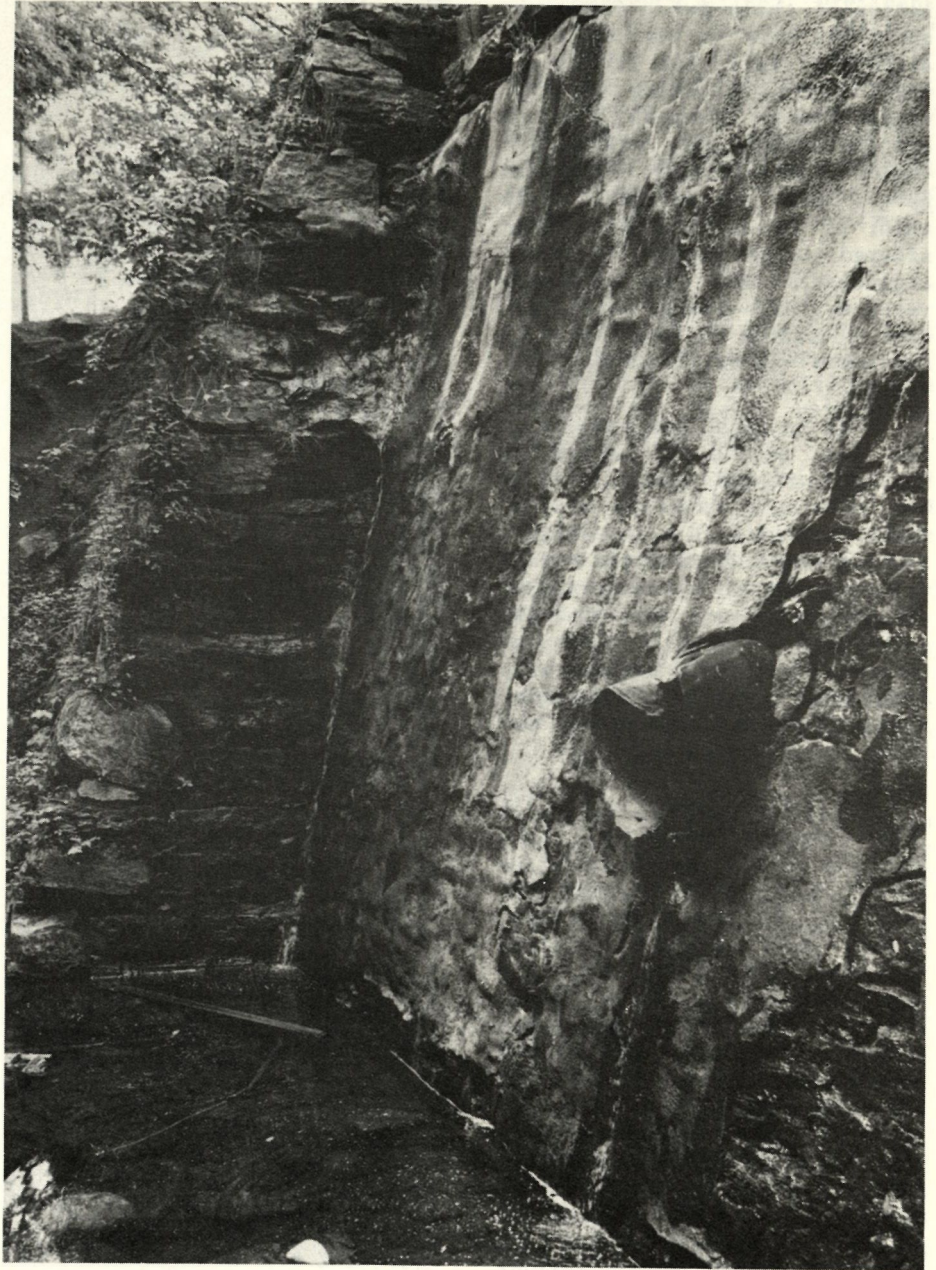
Neither Nixon nor President Ford, however, approved funding for the National Dam Inspection Act, and it was not until mid-1977 that Congress, under Pres-

ident Carter, voted \$15 million for the project. A four-year program of inspection by the Army Corps of Engineers then began and should be completed by the end of the 1981 fiscal year. The program is to include inspection of approximately 9,000 non-federal dams designated "high hazard." ("High hazard" or "high damage potential" ratings are based only upon the degree of development downstream, not actual safety testing of individual structures.)

As of October 31, 1980, 6,692 dams had been inspected, of which 2,008 (30 percent) were determined unsafe, and 101 (5 percent) were felt to require emergency action. Upon completion of the federal inspection program, states are supposed to conduct their own dam safety programs, following up on federal findings with repair and maintenance measures.

The expectation that states will continue to improve dam safety by following up on inspections made under the federal program presents several problems. Once the Corps of Engineers has identified an unsafe dam, further action rests with the dam's owner, which may be an individual, a corporation, a city, or a state. According to Victor Galgowski, Connecticut's Superintendant of Dam Maintenance, who is in charge of State dam inspections under DEP's Water Resources Unit, lack of funds is the major obstacle to improving unsafe dams. Federal funds for continuing safety inspections and improvements have not been made available. "And now, with recent budget cuts under the new administration, it's going to be even more difficult," Galgowski says.

There are a number of options available to a dam owner who has been notified that his dam is unsafe. Each option, though, has its drawbacks. The lake or reservoir may be lowered or emptied or the dam breached, alleviating the potentially hazardous situation. But in many cases, the public depends upon the impoundment for water or power supplies.



Lake Williams Dam seen from below.

The owner may choose to abandon or sell the facility. This choice, however, only transfers responsibility for the dam's repair and maintenance to another party.

If the owner does nothing, he will not only face state penalties and the possibility of heavy liability claims in the event of a failure, but he may also be endangering the lives and property of citizens downstream. The same is true if the owner decides to contest inspection results with an independent engineering review, since this procedure will involve considerable delay.

The remaining alternative—repairing or eliminating the structural deficiency which is causing the dam to be judged unsafe -- is often a task beyond the financial means of the owner. While the federal government recognizes financial need, and, as of April 1981, was working through FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) on various loan plans to aid owners of unsafe dams, no plans have yet come through.

Connecticut's Inspection Program

Many states, like Connecticut, have dam safety legis-

lation of their own. Connecticut's has been on the books for about 100 years, but it was not until severe flooding in 1955 caused heavy damages that a statewide inventory was undertaken. Approximately 3,000 dams have been inventoried since then, of which 1,100 were considered large enough to merit attention. Of these, 325 are rated as "high damage potential" dams according to the Corps of Engineers' classifications.

The National Dam Inspection Act has placed a burden on Connecticut dam owners, as it has on owners in other states. After the initial inspection, further investigation and repair are not funded by the federal government, but the federal government expects that dam owners will conform to federally determined safety standards. Connecticut has agreed to enforce these standards.

Do all of Connecticut's 325 "high damage potential" dams actually merit great concern? According to Galgowski, the Army Corps of Engineers has established very stringent safety criteria. He feels that the requirements are often unnecessarily conservative and force owners into costly repairs and replacements which are not always needed.

Limited funds severely restrict the scope of Connecticut's dam safety inspection program. Galgowski works with two assistants, but because money and manpower are short, they are unable to conduct regular inspections around the State. Instead, they inspect in response to calls received from concerned citizens about particular dams.

One good thing to come out of the Federal Dam Inspection Act has been the formulation of emergency operating procedures for dam owners. These plans assure that during periods of high flood probability, such as heavy rains, dams will be closely watched. In the event of impending failure, dam owners are required to alert the proper officials who can then carry out evacuation of downstream areas.

Case study-- Williams Pond Dam in Lebanon

Williams Pond Dam is an earthen dam with a stone masonry downstream face which was constructed in 1865 by the Kent Manufacturing Company. Popularly known as Lake Williams Dam, the structure is approximately 280 feet long and 23 feet in height and impounds an area of water of about 265 acres. Because of its age, the dam was not designed or constructed according to building principles currently in use, nor does it conform to present safety regulations -- a problem among many old dams. Its present owners, Gilman Brothers, Inc., a manufacturing facility in Gilman, purchased the dam in 1905. It is now operated by them, as the Bozrah Light and Power Company, to supplement water supply and power generation for the downstream manufacturing facility.

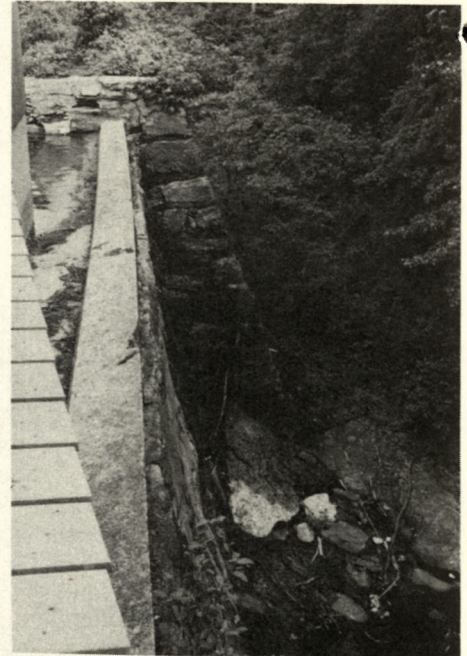
In October 1948, owners of cottages around the shore of Lake Williams found themselves "facing a mud-flat, dotted with ugly looking stumps of dead trees," according to the Bridgeport "Sunday Herald" of October 17. The lake had been drained by the Gilman Company to permit dam repairs and was not expected to refill until the following autumn.

The cottage owners then formed the Lake Williams Beach Association, an organization chartered by the legislature and given the power of taxation. Members of the Association attempted to meet with the President of the Boston-based company which had sold them their land in the spring of 1948. The property owners claimed that the Boston company had misled buyers with a hard selling campaign, informing one woman that the lake was 35 feet deep and naturally formed and failing to inform buyers that the Gilman Company, which remained the owner of the dam, retained the right to drain the lake at any time. The property owners felt helpless to protest.

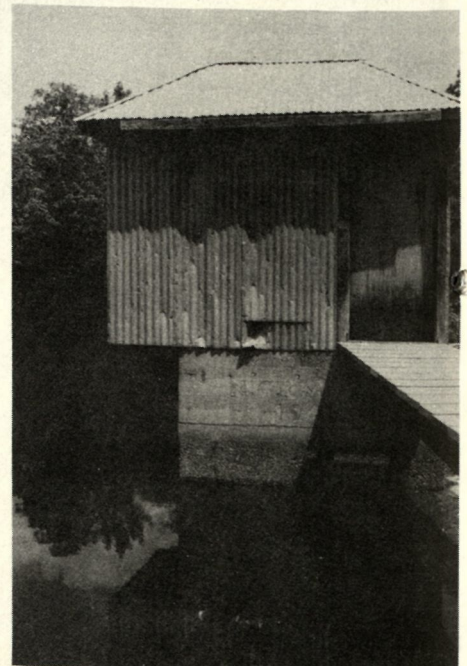
Today, the citizens around Lake Williams again face the

prospect of a drained lake. Gloria Hanczar, currently President of the Lake Williams Beach Association, explains the situation.

On January 26, 1979, the Association received a letter from the Gilman Company stating that "we have orders from the people in Hartford to do some very expensive major repairs to our dam in Williams Pond." The Gilman Company was asking for a sum of \$10,000 a year from



The spillway, from top of the dam.



The gatehouse at the dam.

members of the Association to pay for the repairs.

In March of 1979, a community meeting was held, at which the Association formed the Williams Dam Study Committee, consisting of both association and non-association members. (The chartered Lake Williams Beach Association consists of 126 landowners, most of whom live on the northeast side of the lake. There are only about ten property owners on the other side of the lake, and they were not designated as Association members when the charter was made official in 1953.)

Members of the Association wanted a guarantee, in the form of a contract, that the water in the lake would be maintained at a certain level if they paid the \$10,000 annually. But the owners would not agree to this and cut off contract negotiations.

The following winter (1979-80), the dam was opened from December to February, and water flowed out from under the ice. This presented a safety hazard; as the water level dropped, the ice weakened and thinned in spots. "The lake looked like a big bowl of ice," says Gloria Hanczar. "You could skate downhill from the edges in. My husband and several other people fell in a few times.

By March of 1980, little water was left, and by April, the lake was practically empty. "We had a long list of concerns," Hanczar explains, not the least of which were falling property values and safety, "but environmental concerns were at the top of our list. We talked to Robert Cortman, a private environmental consultant from the University of Connecticut, and found that the lake had been drained at just about the worst possible time."

The spring draining resulted in a massive fish kill that summer. "I felt so badly," Hanczar says, "The fish were lying piled up at the bottom of the dam, literally inches thick, with hardly any water around them."

Weeds began to grow on the exposed soil. There was no boating or fishing that summer.

Ray Kanter, who owns Kanter's Sales and Service as well as a boat rental and camping facility off Route 207, about a quarter of a mile west of the dam, feels that the Gilman Company is justified in requesting money from the property owners around the lake. Asked what he thought might be a possible reason for the property owners' reluctance to pay, Kanter answered, "They've been getting the lake for free all these years. I guess they figure, why should we start paying now?"

Gloria Hanczar explains the situation differently. "We would have paid the money if we had received some assurance that the lake would be maintained at a reasonable level. Ray Kanter has nothing to lose by paying the money. He's on the southwest side of the lake, where the water is deeper. Even if the lake were almost completely drained, there would probably be a bit of water at his end, although our end would be dry. He doesn't want to make waves -- the Gilman Company is well-established and powerful."

But the Lake Williams Beach Association is making waves. In November 1980, the Legal Committee of the Association voted 25 to five to go to court to prove their rights as property owners. "Until now," Hanczar says, "we had all assumed that we had no rights, that there was nothing we could do. We believe now that we do have rights, and we're willing to try to prove it in court." The situation is beginning to affect the area adversely. In the last year and a half, there have been only two sales of property around the lake. "I know that the real estate market hasn't been great lately," Hanczar continues, "But I don't think it's that bad. The whole situation is really upsetting people emotionally."

What are the rights of the property owners of Lake Williams? "It's hard to say," Galgowski comments. "It depends on exactly how their property deeds are worded. We'll have to wait until they go to court and see."

Lawrence Gilman, president of the Gilman Company, declined to comment on the situation at the Lake, but emphasized that his company's relationship with DEP, which is responsible for enforcing all actions relating to the safety of the dam, was "very good, very productive."

Making do with what exists

The case of the Lake Williams Dam is complicated, but the problems it exemplifies are similar to those raised in regard to many dams.

At stake in the issue of dam safety are the lives and property of those citizens living downstream from the dam, who might be endangered if a structure were not sound. The purpose of the Federal Dam Inspection Act and state safety programs is to protect the lives and property of such citizens.

But the considerations are numerous and complex. A statute designed to protect the lives and property of some citizens may harm others, as in the Lake Williams case. The statute may make unreasonable demands on certain citizens, such as dam owners, may be difficult to enforce, or may harm the environment.

Whether or not members of the Lake Williams Beach Association win their case in court, hundreds of other dams throughout the country face the same kinds of problems and conflicts of interests. Even if all potentially hazardous dams were restored to satisfactory condition, programs could not end there. Dams are subject to the constantly changing conditions of the natural environment and must be frequently monitored.

There are many problems with the present programs for dam safety. Modifications are needed to make state and federal inspection efforts work together more smoothly and to incorporate the wide range of financial, environmental, social, and personal concerns related to the issue. Until such modifications are made, the existing system, which has as its primary concern people's lives, seems better than no system at all. ■

CAM NEWS

By Ellen McGrath

Coastline recreation

Connecticut has 215 miles of coastline, and nearly every coastal community has something to offer for summer recreation. Swimming, sunbathing, boating, fishing, camping, water-skiing, and clamming are only a few of the local activities that some 2 million people enjoy annually along our shores. Antique shops, tag sales, museums, and boutiques are commonplace, as well as some fine seafood restaurants serving crabs, lobsters, fish, and clams at a lower price than you would find inland. But the Connecticut coast was not always a recreational haven. In fact, the idea of recreating on the coast of Connecticut is really a modern occurrence, which took hold around the turn-of-the-century.

The first humans to inhabit the coast were American

Indians. They knew they had a good thing going on the shore: an abundant food supply, a temperate climate of cool summers and milder winters, a natural avenue of transportation, and a natural playground. The British arrived in the 17th century and sought to take advantage of the abundance and natural beauty of the Connecticut shore. The town of Saybrook was even originally founded as a resort for the "jet set" of the colonial era. Since then, the attributes of the Connecticut shoreline have attracted artisans, fishermen, developers, manufacturers, and last but not least, the vacationer.

Recreation did not become a part of American life until the end of the 19th century, when rising national prosperity allowed the middle class and the working man time to relax and entertain themselves. The

shoreline towns took on a new identity: they became resort towns, catering to the out-of-town visitor. Savin Rock Amusement Park, for instance, near New Haven and Branford beaches, was jam-packed on summer weekends as trolley cars brought in sweltering city crowds. Ferry boats traveled from shore to neighboring islands, as they still do today, though pleasure craft make up the bulk of modern day sea traffic.

There are three large State Park beaches in Connecticut: Sherwood Island in Westport; Rocky Neck in East Lyme; and Hammonasset in Madison. Bluff Point State Preserve in Groton also has beach area. In addition, there are many other public beaches open to Connecticut residents for a nominal parking and/or entry fee. Some towns may operate municipally-owned beaches which are open to town residents. Check before you go. Some public beaches offer camping grounds for the more adventurous. Hammonasset State Park and Rocky Neck State Park, as well as the towns of Clinton, Groton, and Mystic, all have public campgrounds. Often reservations are necessary, so be sure to contact the individual campground and make reservations by mail or phone early. Many campgrounds are open year-round, so if you miss the Fourth of July weekend, you may have a chance later on. Some town-owned beaches allow overnight camping by permit only. Permits are issued by local Parks and Recreation Departments.

If swimming, sunbathing, and just plain relaxing aren't enough for you, then you might consider sport-fishing aboard a charter boat in Long Island Sound. Boats can be chartered for inshore bottom fishing for cod, pollack, flounder, blackfish, bluefish, and striped bass, to name but a few species. Other boats specialize in runs to Block Island and Montauk, Long Island, for a taste of real sport: bluefish, tuna, and even shark are typical game fish. These are all-day events. Charters require advance reservations, so plan ahead. Most boats provide bait and tackle

Lighthouse Beach, New Haven, 1915.





Above; Rocky Neck State Park, summer holiday. Below; Sunbathing at Hammonasset State Park.



Some charter boats also take people for wreck dives off the shore of Block Island. This typically involves the use of two air tanks for either day or night dives.

Certain sections of the Sound have been off limits to shellfishermen because of poor water quality. However, there are still quite a few places where the weekend fisherman can take home a bucket of fresh clams, oysters, mussels, or scallops. Many recreational fishermen use rods and reels to take stripers, blackfish, and cod from piers and bridges,

especially in the bountiful brackish waters of estuaries. This is where the fresh river water meets the saltiness of the Sound, and where the greatest variety of shellfish and finfish occurs. Ordinances vary from town to town, so be sure to check with your local Town Hall before you take any shellfish.

Those who own small, trailable boats can take them just about anywhere along the coast; access along the 1,300 square miles of shoreline is provided by 13 individual launching ramps. You can hop off your boat and explore a salt marsh,

swim, water-ski, dock in Mystic for a day at the Seaport, check out Ocean Beach in New London and its amusement park, dine in a seaside restaurant, and spend the night in a shorefront hotel or inn. Some exquisite homes -- once summer housing for the wealthy -- are now used for public lodging.

Even if you don't own a boat you can still go boating. Cruises aboard a ferry remain a popular pastime in Connecticut. They leave from Norwalk, Branford, Mystic, and New London, to name a few. Old Saybrook's cruise ships sail down the Connecticut River to the Sound and across to Long Island.

Most coastal towns have at least one major point of interest. The towns of Mystic, New London, and Stonington are filled with reminders of the days when most of the townspeople were involved in whaling. Mystic Seaport is a famous marine museum; New London has a whaling museum, and Stonington has a unique lighthouse museum. You can visit the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and see their ship, the Eagle, anchored proudly in New London Harbor, then head down the road to Waterford to see the Harkness Memorial, a millionaire's estate, with its collection of Rex Brasher watercolors of North American birds.

You might even try the Trolley Museum in Branford, which includes a three-mile shoreline trolley ride as part of its attraction. Essex has the Valley Railroad, which makes a scenic tour of the lush countryside, while Stratford is the home of the American Shakespeare Theatre, and Greenwich celebrates its coastal heritage with the Bruce Museum.

If you like to shop for antiques, Essex has quaint little shops in view of the harbor. The Captain's Walk in New London, by the water's edge, is filled with boutiques and restaurants. In every coastal town, there are cultural and social activities, depending on the time of year, even regional festivals. Norwalk and Milford have oyster festivals every September. ■

Salmon watching lured public to Leesville Dam

By Audrey Handelman, Environmental Intern

Wildlife enthusiasts have been known to go to great lengths to catch a glimpse of their favorite species. Some prefer the solitary pleasures of sitting in a forest, waiting for deer, squirrels, or chipmunks to wander past. Others, like bird-watchers, may pursue their hobby in flocks, armed with binoculars and identification books. But this summer a new breed of wildlife enthusiast was afoot in Connecticut -- the "salmon watchers" who gathered at the Leesville Dam fishway on the lower Salmon River in Moodus.

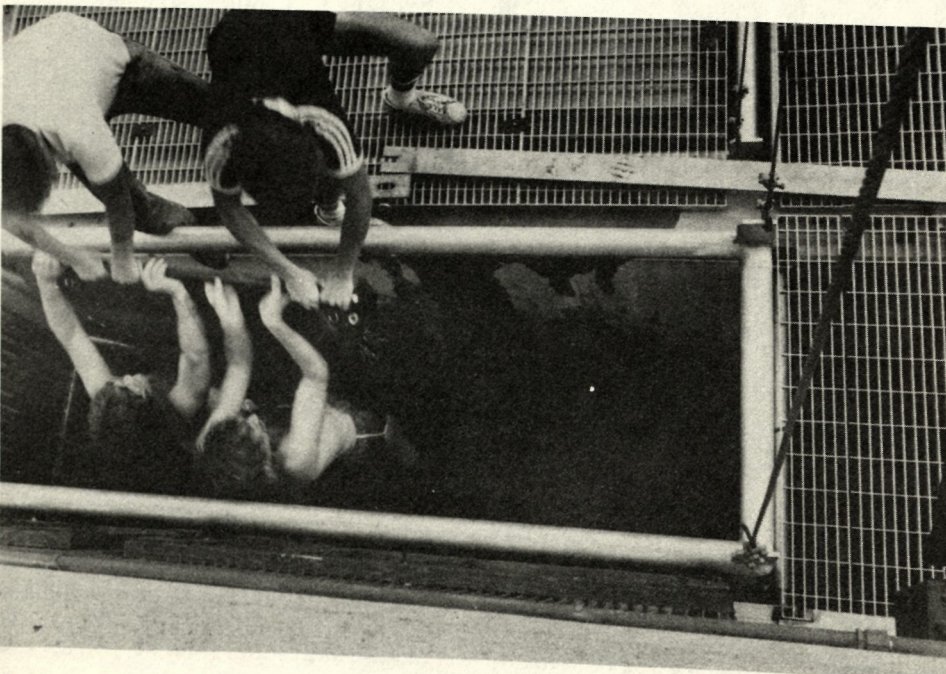
According to Stephen Gephard, a DEP Fisheries biolo-

gist, people came to the site every evening to stand at the dam looking downstream, hoping to catch the flashing arc of an Atlantic Salmon leaping out of the water on its upstream spawning journey or to get a look at the fish in the dark water of the trailer tank where they were placed after being trapped.

The Leesville fishway, completed in June 1980 at a cost of \$1.2 million, was a major step forward in the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program which was begun in 1966 by the Connecticut River basin states and federal fisheries agencies. The program is intended to bring about the return to Connecticut's rivers of the salmon, which were forced to halt their runs by the proliferation of dams in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Leesville facility is one of two major trapping facilities operated by DEP and is designed to catch adult salmon during their annual upstream journey. The other facility, the Rainbow Dam fishway, is located on the lower Farmington River. In addition, the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife operates the Holyoke Dam fishlift on the Connecticut River.

The Leesville station has also been unusual because of its "citizen participation" in the program. "Other stations are manned full-time," says Gephard, "But this one is just checked several times a day. If there's a big one in the trap, I can't possibly handle it myself. People here have been really good about helping out." Some



Audrey Handelman photos

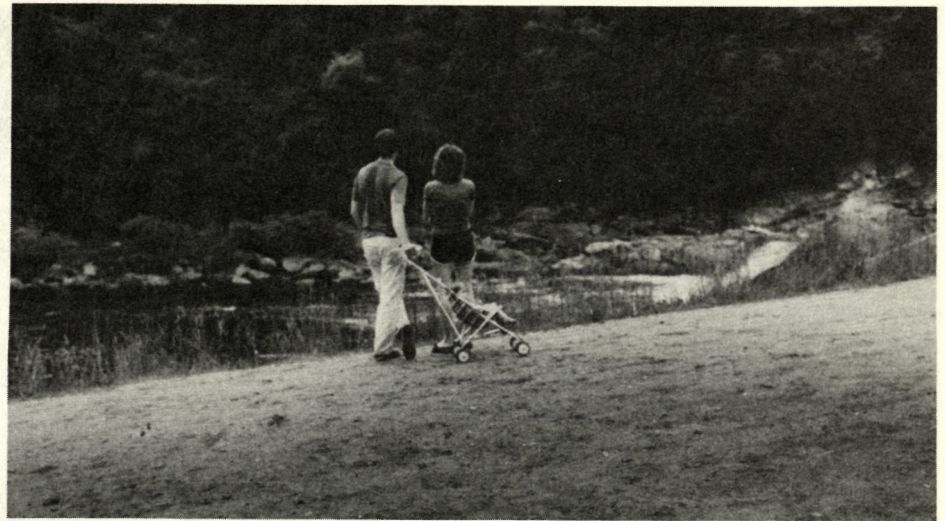


of this season's success may be attributable to local citizens' enthusiasm and support.

What kind of a person is the "salmon watcher"? He or she may be a grandfather or a granddaughter, an avid angler or a member of a town conservation group. "Three or four people show up consistently," says Gephard. "Other people who just drop by now and then are perfectly willing to lend a hand."

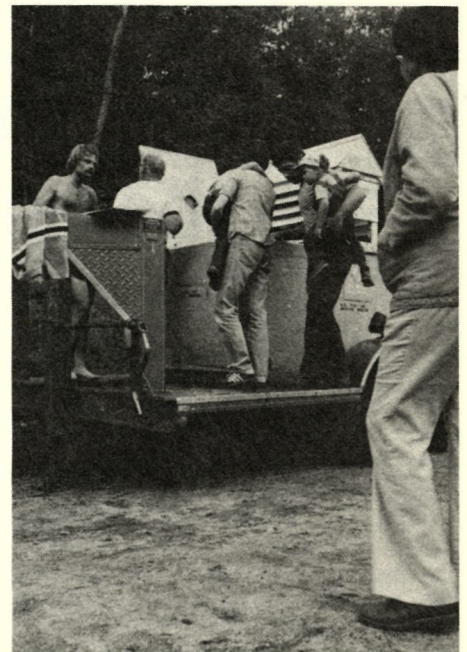
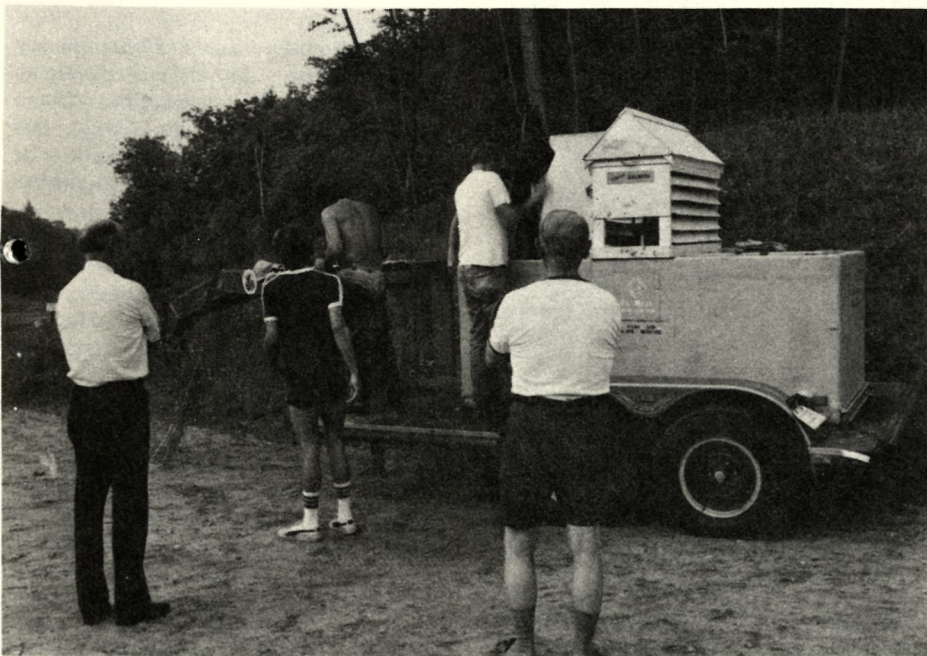
Once caught, Leesville's salmon were removed from the trap in nonabrasive vinyl slings which hold water at all times. They were handled gently, treated with antibiotics to prevent infections from developing, and placed in a refrigerated trailer tank. Later, a truck hitched up to the trailer to transport the fish, without further handling, to any of several holding tanks around the State and in Massachusetts. The salmon remain at these facilities until fall spawning, at which time the eggs go to hatcheries for rearing and the adults, after "reconditioning," are held for the next spawning season.

Watching for salmon at the Leesville Dam requires patience; as one watcher put it, "It's like waiting to see a shooting star--look away for an instant, and you might miss it." But



even if watchers failed to catch a jumping fish in the act, they enjoyed a quiet, companionable

hour or two in the tranquility of the summer air beside the waters of the Salmon River. ■





Wildlife survival... the owl and the pussycat and the bulldozer

By Steven N. Jackson, Wildlife Biologist II

What with current attitudes and trends, many of Connecticut's wildlife populations have a perilous future. Among the largest obstacles to these animals' continued success is indifference and misinformation.

Wildlife is influenced by many things. In this article we will look at some of these influences and at how the positive influences might be emphasized and the negative minimized.

Natural factors such as food supplies, weather, competition, reproduction, and disease all play large roles in limiting the growth of animal populations. The effects of some factors can be manipulated to some extent by man through wildlife management techniques; however, in fact, only a few areas are actually managed.

Food supplies can be manipulated, but only a small percentage of Connecticut's avail-

able land is managed with wildlife in mind. Natural food supplies provide most of the feed for wildlife, and these supplies vary from season to season and year to year depending on many other variables. Limited availability of food during the winter is, however, a factor that has a strong controlling effect on wildlife populations.

Weather conditions cannot be controlled by man, and they too influence the survival of many individual wild animals during critical periods such as early life and winter. Food sources also can be greatly affected by weather conditions.

Competition between individuals of the same species or between different species for space and food limit the number of individual animals that can be supported on a given piece of land.

Disease in wild populations can relate directly to competition and population density. Increased contact between animals and decreased resistance due to lack of food can increase the chance of diseases being spread through any population.

Predation is also a density-related controlling factor. As prey populations increase and decrease so do predatory species like foxes and owls. While controlling predator populations can have a short-term positive impact on prey populations, chances are that in the absence of predators other natural controls will take over. On the whole, predation has a beneficial, moderating effect on prey populations.

These natural wildlife controls are short-term influences on wildlife. In many cases they do not limit the populations enough to suit the needs of man or to the levels most beneficial to the species being affected.

Human influences on wildlife range from long-term influences, with major effects, such as changes in land use and reduction of habitat, to short-term influences like supple-

mental feeding, stocking, wildlife management activities, hunting and trapping, free roaming cats and dogs, road kills, and poaching.

As a whole, human influences often have far-reaching, long-term impacts on wildlife. All too often these influences are negative. In land development, for example, other benefits most often override the value of wildlife in the consideration of uses of any specific site. Indifference, and a lack of long-term planning which includes wildlife considerations, allows such decisions to collectively add up to substantial wildlife habitat losses with significant long-term impact on wildlife populations.

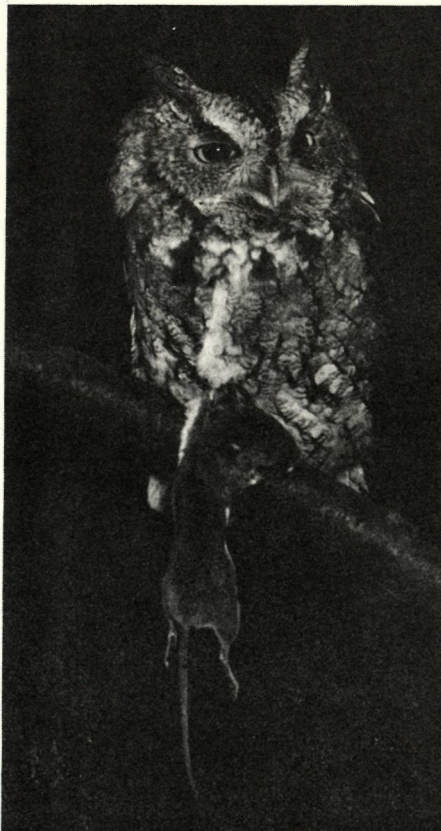
With little or no thought given to wildlife impacts, changes in land use over the years have both created and destroyed wildlife habitat. Changes such as the conversion of undeveloped land to housing developments, highways, shopping areas, industrial parks, etc., usually negatively affect animal populations. Generally, the negative impact of development

on wildlife is directly related to the level of human occupation. Techniques may be used to lessen these impacts; however, wildlife habitat lost to this kind of development seldom returns to a wild state.

Any kind of change in land use will affect wildlife, but the changes are not always negative. In some cases, with the right considerations, change can have positive impacts on the wildlife involved. Conversion of woodland to farmland, for example, changes the habitat to benefit some species at the expense of others. When mature forests are logged, changing the types of trees most commonly found in forests, wildlife patterns change as well. When drains are placed in fields for more productive use...when ponds are built out of natural wetlands...when access roads make land more available to people...all these changes affect wildlife, though not necessarily negatively.

Feeding animals is not always helpful, even though it may appear to be so to the persons doing the feeding. Feeding can increase winter survival and increase production of offspring. It can also increase susceptibility to predation, vulnerability to hunting and road kills, and conflicts with humans. The real benefit of feeding on wild populations is limited, at best, and for many species feeding can have negative influences on its intended beneficiaries.

Stocking animals into the wild to develop wildlife populations can be a positive step in producing new populations or reestablishing vanished populations. Stocking can, however, have many of the same effects as feeding animals. Unless truly wild animals are stocked the effect may simply be feeding predators or providing easy game for hunters. Stocking already established species will not increase the land's ability to support more wildlife. In either of these cases there is little positive impact. On the other hand, restocking a suitable habitat with a once lost



Leonard Lee Rue III photo

species such as the beaver or the wild turkey, using good wild stock, has proved successful in Connecticut.

Wildlife management has aimed at providing as much good quality habitat for wildlife as possible, with populations controlled to an optimum level in relation to the habitat and to human use of the area. Hunting and trapping can be used as tools to control populations while providing recreation. Populations are ideally controlled at levels that avoid the extremes in numbers which lead to disease and winter losses and maintain the habitat with a high capacity for wildlife.

Wildlife management provides built-in protection for game species, and quality habitat for all species, most of which are not harvested by hunters or trappers. Most game species are not controlled at optimum levels by natural predation, either because there are few predators for the species or because predation is not a controlling factor on that population. While legal hunting and trapping do eliminate individual animals from the wild, they do it at levels well within a population's ability to recover within one year and at times of the year when the population can safely be reduced with only short-term impacts.

Illegal hunting and trapping is done without regard for

laws (and sometimes without respect for human life or property). It is not done as a management tool but for personal and perhaps monetary gain. Illegal hunting can have a serious negative impact on wildlife populations, and illegal hunting accounts for far greater losses in some species than legal hunting.

Free roaming dogs and cats also have effects on wild populations that extend beyond just what these pets kill. Dogs may chase deer for miles, causing the deer to expend energy that cannot be easily regained in winter when their food supplies are limited. Natural predators will seldom expend the energy to chase a deer far because they too have limited food sources in winter. Like their prey, they must conserve energy and live on what they can catch, while dogs can just go home to supper. Nest disturbance and harassment by pets is also common, and these have a significant impact on ground nesters. Pets should be kept at home where they will have little effect on wildlife.

Road kills in Connecticut account for the loss of much wildlife. Nearly as many deer, for example, are killed on highways as are harvested during the legal deer season.

Few of our human-versus-wildlife conflicts have easy

solutions. Human needs are rarely superseded by wildlife needs. Connecticut is a small state with a large population. Most people no longer depend directly on the land, and many are indifferent to wildlife. Motorcyclists and four-wheel-drive enthusiasts, as an example, destroy or disturb a good deal of good wildlife habitat in our State forests in the name of recreation. Even the gardener's first thought is how to get rid of the rabbits rather than how to exclude them. "Let's get rid of the beavers" is the response when they cut down a tree, with no consideration for the positive impacts beavers have in many areas. And how many developers think of wildlife as they consider how many houses to put on a piece of land?

Changes of attitude and behavior are in order. A bird house here, a wildlife shrub there, a fence around the garden, the renovation of a building rather than new construction in an undeveloped area -- all these can have positive impacts on wildlife. Developers can look at extra-large lots or at cluster developments as a means of using the most developable areas and leaving the remainder undisturbed for wildlife. Individuals can keep pets at home and can stop feeding wild ducks, geese, and turkeys, raccoons and deer. We can join educational wildlife organizations and learn more about wildlife. And we can discourage illegal hunting.

Many things influence wildlife populations, many of them beyond our control. Loss of habitat is by far the most important and distressing problem long-term. Meanwhile some well-meaning groups working to help wildlife condemn legal hunting and trapping, despite the fact that these are the most controlled of wildlife influences. Instead of working against one another, I suggest that groups with concerns for wildlife, including hunters and trappers, should work together to find ways to halt the loss of habitat, by far the greatest overall threat to Connecticut's wildlife populations. ■



Denise Hendershot photo -- bobcat

Turkey season tally

Twenty-one male turkeys, weighing an average of 17.5 pounds, were harvested by 429 hunters during Connecticut's first wild turkey hunting season which ended May 23.

The total harvest was about what was expected, according to the turkey project leader, DEP Wildlife Biologist Steven Jackson. "We expected a four to five percent success rate among all hunters, with a majority of the turkeys being harvested from private land." The actual success rate was 4.9 percent. Two percent of the State's estimated total male turkey population was harvested.

The largest turkey taken during the two-week season weighed 23 pounds, live weight. Also the first bird shot during the season, it was taken by Darrel Russ of Norfolk at 6:08 a.m. on opening day, May 9.

Seven of the 21 turkeys were taken in State forests. Since most of the season's hunting was on State land, a higher State land harvest might have been expected, but the wily turkeys become even more elusive when hunter density is high, Jackson said. Hunter density on State lands was many times that on private lands. Altogether 4,212 turkey hunting applications were received. Approximately 3,700 of these were to hunt on State land. Only 284 hunting permits were issued for the five State land areas open for turkey hunting, so 13 hunters applied for each State land permit issued.

Only 145 permits were ultimately issued for private land, although up to 716 permits could have been issued to qualified applicants. Many hunters selected were unable to obtain the required written permission from landowners or did not complete the application procedure for other reasons.

As turkey populations increase, additional areas of both State and private land may be opened to wild turkey hunting.

Letters

New Canaan Land Conservation Trust, Inc.
New Canaan, Connecticut 06840

Stanley J. Pac, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection

Dear Commissioner Pac,

This is in response to the letter from Richard W. Davis, Executive Director of the Home Builders Association of Connecticut, appearing in the April issue of "Citizens' Bulletin," commenting on statements made in my land trust article printed in the September and October issues of "Citizens' Bulletin," regarding the cost advantages of open space to taxpayers.

Apparently my statements have been misinterpreted. In the same sense that Mr. Davis is an advocate of housing, I am an advocate of open space. I assume he respects the need for open space, and I have a healthy respect for the need for housing. I submit that higher density housing in sewered areas which are environmentally suitable is a necessity to allow the dedication of other environmentally sensitive areas as open space. The goals are quite consistent.

Since the impact of housing developments will vary from community to community and from development to development, I talked with our regional planner. The South Western Regional Planning Agency has a reputation for being fair-minded in balancing the respective needs for housing and open space, and has made a study of the "cost-benefit" relationship of open space.

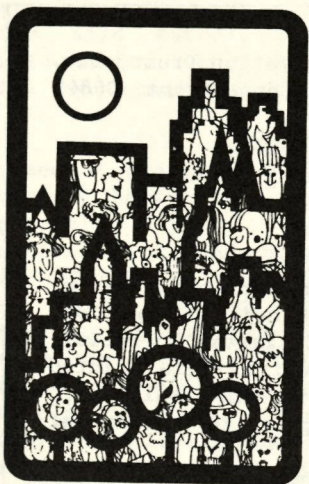
Regional Planner Peggy Chapin points out that "The Cost of Sprawl" (1974), prepared by the Real Estate Research Corporation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and other federal agencies, proves conclusively in a detailed cost analysis that cluster type development surrounded by open space as contrasted to conventional single family housing produces major cost savings in roads and utilities. "This cost difference is particularly significant for that proportion of total cost which is likely to be borne by local government."

However, it is also a proven fact that the conventional single family house can require high cost education services. SWRPA has estimated, using 1979 figures, that the tax revenue required to support two school children in New Canaan is over \$4,000. This does not include the cost of other public services required by the household. Fair market value to raise these tax revenues is close to \$290,000. I don't wish to belabor the point, but make it to dispel the fears of those who think open space is always a burden to taxpayers.

In conclusion, let me reiterate that the purpose of open space is not to avoid housing but to enhance it. A major reason for preserving open space now, while it is available, is to enrich the lives of future generations by permitting them to share in our natural heritage. Also, as a practical matter in this era of inflation, there is a scarcity of buildable land in desirable areas due to development, resulting in spiraling real estate prices. It does not appear that under present circumstances, land now held as permanent open space (with room for a great deal more) has any material effect on the dramatic increase in real estate values.

Cordially,

Jack D. Gunther, President



By Martina Delaney,
Citizens' Participation Coordinator

For Your Information

Environmental groups' members form political action committee

The environmental movement in Connecticut took on a new dimension this summer with the founding of a new political action committee aimed at electing environmentalists to the Connecticut General Assembly.

Calling themselves ELECT (Environmentalists to Elect Legislators in Connecticut) the committee has attracted support from representatives of some of the most influential environmental groups in the State.

The impetus for the new group -- the first overtly political environmental entity in Connecticut -- "is clearly the Reagan administration's lackluster attitude to natural resources protection," according to Holly Schadler, director of the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club. As evidence of that, she pointed to President Reagan's naming of James Watt, a long time advocate of exploitation of public lands, as Secretary of the Interior and Anne Gorsuch, a Colorado State representative with views similar to Watt's, as administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Nevertheless, according to ELECT organizers, the new group will confine itself at least initially to in-state elections. "If we are to continue Connecticut's historic concern for clean air, clean water, sensible

energy and land-use programs, then we must have state officials committed to these goals," said Beth Weinstein of Hartford.

The new group will work for the election of sympathetic candidates rather than for the defeat of targets on a "hit list," according to Domenic Forcella of Plainville, executive director of the State Council on Environmental Quality. Unlike most political action committees, ELECT will put less emphasis on donating money to candidates and more on recruiting environmentalists to run for office and to work as volunteers in election campaigns.

Calling the gathering "a historic meeting," Robert Chlopak, national director for the Friends of the Earth political action committee, emphasized that ELECT's goal can be reached. "It can be done," said Chlopak, who spearheaded a campaign to elect pro-environment candidates during the New Jersey primaries this year and who was keynote speaker at ELECT's first meeting.

"We won four out of four races," he said. These races were won not by the multi-million dollar media blitzes used by other political action groups but by "getting out and talking to the rank and file people."

Chlopak pointed out that national polls repeatedly show the public is willing to protect the environment even if it costs

money. Chlopak suggested that the group start now by drawing up a chart of all Connecticut legislators showing how each voted on environmental issues. "When it comes time to make a decision (to endorse) you can show who's been good and who's been bad," he said.

A fund raising goal of \$30,000 has been set to cover the period between now and the 1982 elections. These funds will be used, according to Roger Koontz of New Haven, to open an office and hire a staff person to supervise the implementation of policies adopted by ELECT's newly elected Board of Directors.

In addition to Weinstein, Forcella, and Koontz, others elected to Board membership were Peter Cooper of New Haven, Judith Hendsey of Canton, Julie Mannarino of Bristol, Susan Merrow of Colchester, Peter Neill of Guilford, Gregory Sharp of Branford and Mary Walton of Griswold.

The ELECT founding meeting grew out of a series of informal get-togethers held over the past nine months by Hartford-area environmentalists concerned about the effectiveness of natural resource protection in the State. The group was given technical assistance, during the planning stage, by LEAP, a statewide political group organized last year by labor, environmental and other political activists.

Further information can be had by contacting Holly Schadler at 527-9788 or writing the Sierra Club, 69 Lafayette St., Hartford, CT 06106.

Waste unit plans workshops on source separation and recycling

The Solid Waste Management Unit of the Department of Environmental Protection, with the assistance of the Energy Division of the Office of Policy and Management, is holding a series of workshops based on Source Separation and Recycling: A Connecticut Guide. These workshops are intended to be problem-solving sessions for mun-

icipal officials and operators of recycling programs.

The schedule for the workshops is as follows:

September 15 - Hartford, UConn Extension Service, 1280 Asylum Avenue, 9:00 - 1:00

September 17 - Litchfield, UConn Extension Service, West Street, 9:00 - 1:00

September 22 - Norwich, UConn Extension Service, 562 New London Turnpike, 9:00 - 1:00

September 24 - New Haven Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, 9:00 - 1:00

Registration for all sessions will be from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Each workshop will be broken down into small discussion groups, with experts in various facets of recycling providing guidance and information. For more details, please

contact the Solid Waste Management Unit at 566-5847 or write to the Department of Environmental Protection, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06115. ■

New publications on water resources

The DEP Natural Resources Center now has available two publications addressing management of Connecticut's water resources.

The first publication, Planning Report No. 1, entitled "Connecticut Water Resources Statutes," is part of the Long-Range Water Resources Management Planning Program. The report provides a brief, non-legal summary of those Connecticut statutes affecting our water resources.

Water Planning Report No. 2, entitled, "Flood Management in Connecticut: A Program Review," is also part of the Long-Range Water Resources Management Planning Program. The following summary introduces the report:

Flood management is a complex process involving many programs at all levels of government. Within the State of Connecticut, one can discern nearly every form of

management, from flood control dams to flood plain zoning. In comparison to many states, Connecticut is a leader in the implementation of progressive flood control programs to protect its citizens. Yet, the complexity and cost of these many programs had led to inefficiencies and management problems. This report critically examines the state's flood related conflicts, and suggests corrective actions. The result is a proposed framework for management, not aimed at creating costly new programs, but, instead, centered on recommendations to amend existing programs and procedures. With the implementation of these recommendations, there would be a beneficial reduction of the state's susceptibility to future flood losses.

These reports are available from the Natural Resources Center at a cost of \$2.00 each. You may order from or address questions concerning them to: Natural Resource Center, Department of Environmental Protection, State Office Building, Room 553, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06115. Attn: Water Resources Management Planning Staff, or phone (203) 566-3540. ■

Committee to consider non-game wildlife

A "blue ribbon" committee of noted wildlife experts, including Roger Tory Peterson of Old Lyme and S. Dillon Ripley of Litchfield, will help the state of Connecticut design a comprehensive non-game wildlife management program, it has been jointly announced by DEP Commissioner Stanley J. Pac and Connecticut Audubon president, Roland C. Clement of Norwalk.

Members of the committee include:

*Roger Tory Peterson, world famous naturalist, author of "Field Guide to the Birds" and other popular bird books, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom;

*S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and former director of Yale's Peabody Museum;

*Dan W. Lufkin, first Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection;

*Dr. Noble Proctor, biology professor at Southern Connecticut State College, Connecticut's leading field ornithologist;

*Professor Stephen Kellert, professor at Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, a leading authority on public attitudes toward wildlife.

Dennis DeCarli, DEP Deputy Commissioner for Conservation and Preservation; Paul Herig, Chief of the DEP Wildlife Unit; Dr. James Slater, entomologist and

professor of biological Sciences at the University of Connecticut; and Roland C. Clement who was chairman of a 1974 national advisory group on non-game wildlife for the President's Council on Environmental Quality and the Department of the Interior will also serve on the committee.

The Connecticut Audubon Society organized this celebrity-laden committee to help develop a first-rate program for those species of wildlife not presently benefiting from the state's wildlife programs.

"Most species of wildlife, from turtles to flying squirrels to songbirds, fall under the category of 'non-game,'" explained Clement, "yet the state is currently unable to devote much time, energy, or funds to help perpetuate those species and their habitats." ■

Events

September 19, 1981; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven

The seventh annual New Haven Oyster Festival, sponsored by Schooner, Inc., and WELI Radio will offer entertainment, arts and crafts, food, sailing competitions.

September 19, 1981; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Edith M. Chase house at Topsmead State Forest, in Litchfield

Fifteen-minute guided tours of the English Tudor house will be offered. Call 379-0771 for more information. The house will also be open October 10.

September 19, 1981, & October 3, 1981

The Connecticut Audubon Society Renewable Energy Resource Center will offer a tour of four Fairfield area solar greenhouses on the 19th. Solar greenhouses in the Hartford area will be shown October 3. Call 259-5606 for information. Numbers are limited.

September 19, 1981; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. St. Joseph College, West Hartford

A Citizens' Conference on the Siting of Safe Hazardous Waste Facilities in Connecticut -- presented by The National Wildlife Federation in cooperation with a number of State environmental groups. Registrations will be accepted at the door. There is no cost for the conference.

Public Hearings

September 15, 1981; 10 a.m. Rm. 221, State Office Bldg., Hartford

To consider application of Conn. Dept. of Transportation to fill and excavate and construct culverts, bridges, and stream relocations within inland wetlands and riverward of stream channel encroachment lines to permit the construction of the Central Connecticut Expressway connecting Rts. 175 and 72, in Newington and New Britain.

September 22, 1981; 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 31 Park St., Guilford

To consider application of the Town of Guilford to replace and realign Noble Bridge on Sachem Head between Colonial Road and Prospect Avenue. Reconstruction will include filling one-half of existing channel into South Bay and constructing a pile-supported 70 ft. span which will be 5.2 ft. above mean high water.

September 23, 1981; 7:30 p.m. Town Hall 78 Elm St., Stonington
To consider application of Rope Realty, Inc., to construct 680 feet of pile and timber dock with 15 finger piers and a 106 ft. floating dock; to place 620 linear feet of riprap; and to dredge 26,000 cubic yards on the east side of the Mystic River north of the railroad bridge and adjacent to Seaport Marine.

September 25, 1981; 10 a.m. State Office Bldg., Hartford
The Department of Public Utility Control will conduct a hearing in an investigation to determine whether it is appropriate to implement a program which would provide utility financing for conservation and efficiency improvements.

October 7, 1981; 7 p.m. Town Hall, 400 Main St., Rm. 9, Ridgefield

To consider application of Perkin Elmer Corp. of Norwalk for a permit to pump low level solvent contaminated well water to the Norwalk River.

Permits Issued

Water Resources

Inland Wetlands

1/2/81: Maurice Jajer, New Milford

For the placement of clean sandy fill materials directly adjacent to an inland wetland, to permit the construction of a subsurface sewage disposal system and parking area on 80 Park Lane, New Milford. Conditions.

1/19/81: Home Building Construction Company, Stratford
To fill wetlands and to discharge stormwater drainage in association with the development of an 11 lot residential subdivision. Filling activities authorized include: fill for the construction of a home on lot #9, fill for an access driveway to serve a home-site on lot #10, and minor regrading along the wetland perimeters of lots #1 and #11. Authorized storm drainage outlets are located in the easterly portion of lot #10, and between lots #1 and #11. Conditions.

1/21/81: DAS/Bureau of Public Works, Hartford

To place 400 cubic yards of fill material, to relocate and enlarge the Rooster River channel, and to construct reinforced concrete retaining walls, bridge replacement, and installation of approximately 5,500 feet of diversion



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Lifestyle Council of Connecticut

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American Lung Association of Connecticut • Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Connecticut
Connecticut Hospital Association • State Department of Health Services

conduit for Ox Brook and the Rooster River, and placement of 1,000 cubic yards of riprap for channel stabilization. To be carried out in the City of Bridgeport and the Town of Fairfield in conjunction with construction of the Rooster River Phase II Flood Control Project. Conditions.

1/28/81: DAS/Bureau of Public Works, Hartford
To construct a 42 inch outlet pipe for storm drainage from the campus site; to construct a berm for retention of storm water; to install a 350 x 4 foot riprapped drainage channel to a tributary of Folly Brook. To be done in conjunction with the construction of an additional campus classroom at Manchester Community College in the Town of Manchester. Conditions.

1/28/81: Parks & Recreation Unit, DEP, Hartford
To fill 1/2 acre of a watercourse in an old clay pit in Hopeville State Park for the purpose of eliminating a health and safety problem, in conjunction with developing a recreation area for the campground in the Town of Griswold. Conditions.

2/27/81: Fairfield Investors, Inc., Bronx, New York
Relocation of 1060-feet of the Norwalk River west of Route 7 and south of the Merritt Parkway in Norwalk for the development of hotel and parking facility known as Merritt Seven Corporate Park, Revised Phase II. Conditions.

3/11/81: Town of Rocky Hill
Resurfacing existing parking lot with bituminous concrete; placing 30 cubic yards of bituminous concrete beyond ordinary high water to construct a new 45 foot by 90 foot boat ramp; constructing a pile secured floating dock. All at Ferry Park and riverward of established stream channel encroachment lines of the Connecticut River in Rocky Hill. Conditions.

3/18/81: Mrs. Flora Kuenzle, New Milford
Construction of approximately 68 parking spaces riverward of encroachment lines and within designated inland wetlands, in association with a proposed commercial building on the east side of

Route 7, 1/4 mile north of Bridge Street in New Milford. Conditions.

Tidal Wetlands Structures & Dredging

1/12/81: Guilford Marina Commission, Guilford
To temporarily place a dredged material disposal pipe across tidal wetlands in Ecological Unit 38, Subdivision 1, East and West Rivers, Guilford. Conditions.

1/29/81: Mr. J.R. Codespoti, Stratford
Filling and grading a total of 0.3 acres of inland and designated tidal wetlands; regrading approximately 480 feet of drainage ditch; and replacing an existing culvert, tidegate, and outfall structure at the Oyster River area in Milford. Conditions.

3/2/81: Department of Parks and Natural Resources, Stamford
Constructing and maintaining a pile and timber bulkhead and placement of backfill, beyond mean high water, 1.5 feet in front of an existing stone bulkhead in the Cummings Point Park Marina Basin, Stamford. Conditions.

3/16/81: Mr. Wallace Stepler, Stonington
Constructing and maintaining a 3' wide pile and timber walkway extending across 60' of designated tidal wetlands in Stonington, and constructing a pile and timber pier, a ramp, and a float extending 50' beyond mean high water in Fishers Island Sound. Conditions.

3/16/81: Ole Martin Amundsen, Inc., Riverside
Constructing and maintaining 75 feet of pile and timber bulkhead extending variously from 0-15 feet beyond mean high water into the Mianus River at Greenwich, and placing approximately 550 cubic yards of backfill. Conditions.

3/16/81: Mr. Albert F. Grauer, Jr., Fairfield
Placing approximately 150 cubic yards of riprap along 480 feet of Pine Creek adjacent to the

property at 1510 to 1583 Fairfield Beach Road. Conditions.

3/17/81: Mr. Bernard Davis, Stonington
Constructing and maintaining a 40 foot pile and timber bulkhead extending 19 feet beyond mean high water in Venetian Harbor at Groton Long Point, and placing 40 cubic yards of backfill. Conditions.

3/17/81: Mr. Robert C. Murphy, Shelton
Retaining and maintaining the existing marina configuration at the Housatonic River Marina, and constructing and maintaining six 25' x 3' ramps and pile secured "H" shaped floating docks 24' wide with 48' legs. Conditions.

3/18/81: Mr. Ronald Brewer, Uncasville
Retaining and maintaining a concrete panel bulkhead within the bound of established tidal wetlands in the Upper Thames River Area in Montville. Conditions.

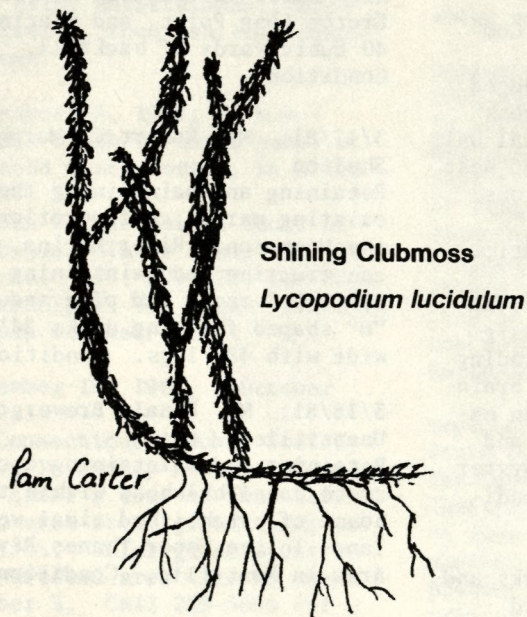
3/20/81: East Coast Environmental Service Corporation, New Haven
Dredging an area 205' by 570' to a depth of 16' below mean low water in the Quinnipiac River. Approximately 50,000 cubic yards of material will be dredged by clamshell and disposed of at the Central Long Island Sound Regional Dredged Material Disposal Area. Conditions.

3/20/81: Essex Island Marina, Inc., Essex
Constructing a 20' extension to an existing 25' finger pier on the east side of Essex Island; relocating an existing Christmas tree-shaped dock to run parallel to the channel on the west side of Essex Island; retaining two docks 5' by 40', and a 5' by 20' "T" head dock on the west side of the Island; and replacing an existing 40' dock with a 100' dock also on the west side of Essex Island. Conditions.

1/29/81: Paul and Angela Yagid, New Milford
To relocate approximately 100 feet of Little Brook to facilitate and improve existing drainage across their residential property; to fill the old stream bed and channel. Conditions.

Trailside Botanizing

by G. Winston Carter



This interesting clubmoss grows best in moist shady woodlands near water where hemlocks are growing and prefers rich, acid soil. It may grow in quite extensive patches or in only small clumps.

The shining clubmoss trails along the forest floor taking root where it comes in contact with the soil. The erect stem at the free end of this growth is the most conspicuous part of the evergreen plant, which sometimes grows in a circular pattern. The stem branches and may rise to a height of nearly a foot, but more commonly to six inches.

The most successful method of reproducing in clubmosses is by running, hence the name Running Pine is given to this whole group as well as being the common name of some species. The plants grow either above or below the ground. The growth of former years withers and dies, but as the plant grows and spreads faster than it dies, colonies increase rapidly for most of the species.

Some species have other ways of reproducing, e.g., by bulblets which appear at the bases of the upper leaves. The Shining Clubmoss propagates in this way, the bulblets falling to the ground, when fully developed, to form a new plant.

Finally, all clubmosses reproduce by spores. The spores when ripe appear as a yellow powder which can be mistaken for pollen. Most of the species found in this area produce spore cases which are borne in cones. In the Shining Clubmoss the spore cases are kidney-shaped and are borne in the axils of the upper leaves.

DEP Citizens' Bulletin

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